Rule re retirement of Government servants.

258. ***Mr. K. N. Kesavan Namputiripad** (*Jenmies*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have declared it as their policy that Government servants who have completed 25 years of service will be allowed to retire on half pension, if they wish to do so, even though they may not have completed 55 years of age?

Rao Bahadur A. Rangasvami Aiyar (*Financial Secretary to Government*): The answer is in the negative. But under Article 311 A., Service Regulations, Heads of Departments have been empowered to permit the retirement of officers in superior service whom they or their subordinates are competent to appoint, provided they have put in qualifying service of not less than 25 years or such less time, as may for any particular class of officers be specially prescribed.

Prohibition of begging.

259. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any law has been passed last year in Hyderabad to the effect that those who beg openly will be awarded imprisonment for one week; and

(*b*) whether it is not a fact that ever since the passing of the above law no beggar there has continued his profession of begging?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: (*a*) Government have no information.

(*b*) In view of answer to (*a*), this does not arise.

Construction of the Alleppey-Changanachery canal.

260. ***Mr. K. Padmanabha Panickar** (*Ambalapuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received a detailed estimate for the construction of the Alleppey-Changanachery canal, and if so, what is the amount;

(*b*) whether they have accorded administrative sanction for the work; and

(*c*) the extent of land that will have to be acquired for the completion of the canal that has already been cut and the amount of land compensation that has to be paid for the acquisition of such land?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott (*Chief Engineer. Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (*a*) Yes for Rs. 28,000.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) About 9 acres and 36 cents for Rs. 14,094 approximately.

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